

Rejuvenating Your Re-Entry Council



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Prisoner Re-Entry Policy Academy

BACKGROUND

- July 2003-National Governors Association (NGA) Center for Best Practices
- NGA assisted state teams in developing effective prisoner reentry strategies
- Virginia-one of seven states that participated in its Prisoner Re-entry Policy Academy
- Goals-
 - (1) Reducing recidivism
 - (2) Improving pre and post release services



Virginia Prisoner Re-entry Policy Academy was created by Executive Order

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AGENCIES AND
ORGANIZATIONS THAT DELIVER SERVICES TO
PERSONS WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY
INCARCERATED AND THEIR FAMILIES WERE
BROUGHT TOGETHER TO ADDRESS BARRIERS
AND NEEDS



Virginia Prisoner Re-Entry Policy Academy

AREAS ADDRESSED



Virginia Community Re-Entry Model

- Integrated human services and public safety
- Addresses both system change and service needs

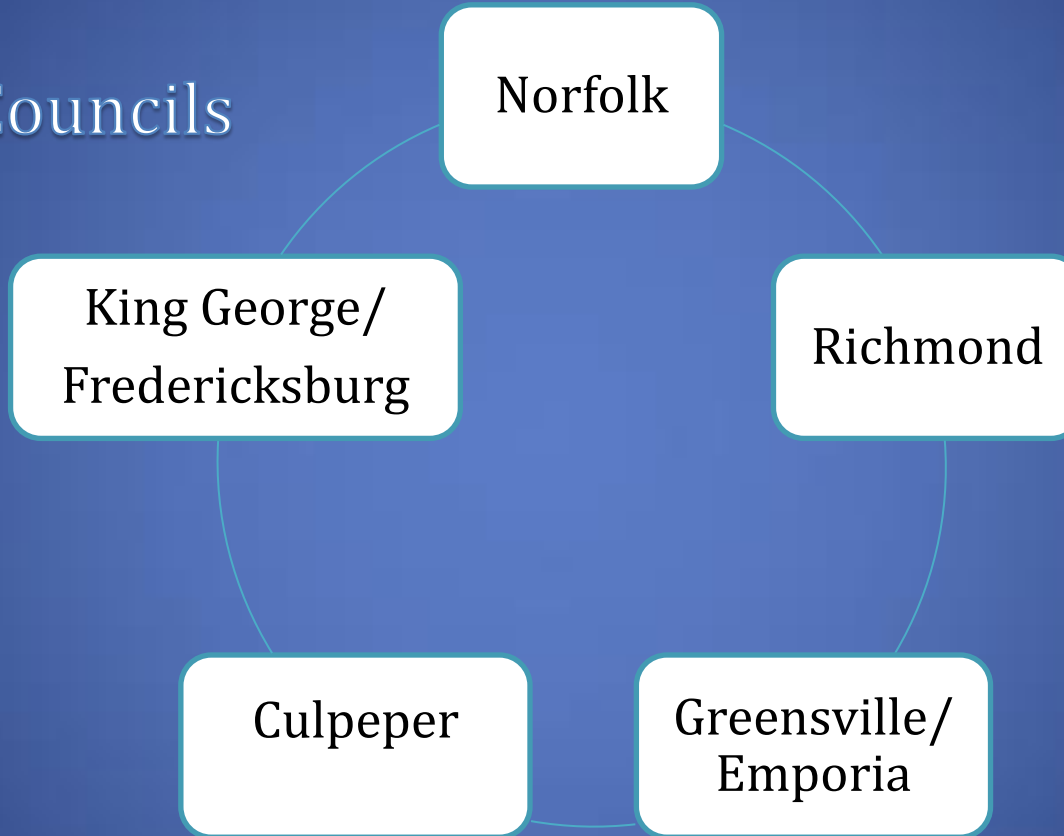
Four Primary Principles

- Pre-release planning
- Interagency/governmental level coordination
- Integrated service delivery
- Positive links to community with system of family and community support



Virginia Community Re-Entry Model

First 5 Re-entry Councils



Virginia Community Reentry Process

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Pre-release Phase



**Returning
Citizen**



Reentry Council

Reentry Phase

Reintegration Phase



Family

Community

**Human Services Agencies
(Social Services, Housing, Community
Action, etc)**

**Nonprofit Agencies
(OAR, Second Chances, etc)**

**Religious Institutions
(Churches, Synagogues, Mosques)**

Businesses/Employers

Health & Mental Health Providers

**Law Enforcement & Public Safety
(Sheriff, Police, Probation & Parole
Commonwealth Attorneys)**

Veterans Services

Courts

Mentors & Civic Groups

Virginia Community Reentry Process

Pre-release Phase

Ninety (90) Days Prior to Release

- Participant Volunteers for Program
- Risk Assessment (COMPAS)
- Skills Assessment (WorkKeys)
- Completes Transition Programming/Training
- Case Management
- Individual Reentry Plan (IRP)
- Victim Services
- Productive Citizenship
- EBP Parenting
- EBP Relapse Prevention
- Matched with Mentor

Reentry Phase

Ninety (90) Days after Release

- Family reunification
- Case Management/EBP Service Delivery
- Benefits
- Job Training/Employment/Identification Documents
- Health/Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services
- Recovery
- Peer Support
- Mentoring/Coaching

Reintegration Phase

Four through Nine Months Following Release

- On-going Case Management/EBP
- Family Reintegration
- Employment/Services Support
- Establish Positive Links in Community
- Mentoring/ Coaching
- Peer Support/Recovery
- Volunteering/Giving Back



VIRGINIA REENTRY & COMMUNITY COLLABORATION COUNCILS

Mission Statement

The Virginia Community Reentry Approach strengthens public safety through a community-based reentry approach that provides opportunities for adults and juveniles previously incarcerated, that supports families and that reduces recidivism.

Community Reentry Approach

Communities across Virginia are implementing a collaborative reentry approach unique in its integration of human services and public safety. It is being voluntarily implemented by Virginia localities.

Communities using this approach form local Reentry and Community Collaboration Councils.

Councils address reentry and other community issues such as housing, employment, behavioral health, substance abuse, family services, positive youth development, benefits and food assistance.

They identify community service gaps and focus on reentry by addressing barriers and coordinating reentry related services and resources.

They do not impose any requirements on local government agencies or community partners. Rather, councils are individuals, agencies and organizations coming together to address reentry and community needs through effective collaboration.

Councils Maximize Resources

Reentry & Community Collaboration Councils maximize resources by coordinating and integrating local service delivery. Coordinated services provided those previously incarcerated include areas such as:

- Employment
- Workforce Development
- Housing
- Transportation
- Health/Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services
- Family Reintegration Services

Focus on Reentry Success

Reentry & Community Collaboration Councils place emphasis on adoption of outcome-based programming by community service providers, on access to employment and workforce development services, on reentry support for responsible decision making, on development of positive work habits and associations, on formation of healthy relationships and on use of positive parenting practices.

Councils allow communities across Virginia to address locality specific issues, needs and assets in a planned and coordinated way. They also address reentry issues and barriers using a common vision based on shared principles and a collaborative community-based reentry approach.

95% of those incarcerated will be released and return to the community.

Contact the local reentry council serving your community to become involved as a service provider, volunteer or returning citizen seeking help.

**Communities Collaborating
for
Reentry Success**

Virginia Re-entry & Community Collaboration Councils – 2016 Leadership Team Meeting Schedule

JUNE 3, 2016
SEPTEMBER 2, 2016
DECEMBER 2, 2016

MEETING & VIDEO CONFERENCING LOCATIONS

Northern
VA Area- VDSS

- Northern
Regional
Office

Central
VA Area-VDSS

- Central
Regional
Office

Eastern
VA Area - VDSS

- Eastern
Regional
Office

Piedmont
VA Area – VDSS

- Piedmont
Regional
Office

Southwestern
VA Area – VDSS

- Western
Regional
Office



Virginia Re-entry & Community Collaboration Councils

- More information can be found at:
http://www.dss.virginia.gov/community/prisoner_reentry/index.cgi
- Email:
prisoner.reentry@dss.virginia.gov
- Phone: 1-800-777-8293
- Contact a Social Services Agency:
<http://www.dss.virginia.gov/localagency/>
- Contact a Probation & Office:
<http://www.vadoc.state.va.us/community/community-facilities.shtm>



KEEP IN MIND



- Leadership is Key
- Community Dictates
- Collaborative Effort
- Information for the Community
- Work to Solve Specific Issues



Organization is Key

- Leadership is About Empowering Others

An effective leader understands that each person needs to believe that he or she can make an important contribution to the organization. Empowering others also expands the capacity that a leader has to accomplish things

- Small Group

Creating a steering committee keeps the organization focused and goal oriented. The steering committee membership should remain small with members who are dedicated to the committee.



VISION

The Essential Quality Of Leadership That Gives Life To An Organization

Definition:

The development, transmission, and implementation of an image of a desirable future

"Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world."

– Joel Barker

Vision (idea)



Communication
(word)



Empowerment
(action)



Four Qualities of an Effective Vision

- Envisions the Future
- Collaboratively Developed
- Flexible
- Mission Statement



Mission Statement

- Developed to ground the vision and reflect practices that the organization accomplishes on an ongoing basis.

- No more than a paragraph long, measureable and stated simply

- Reflect the shared value and practice of involved stakeholders



Vision:

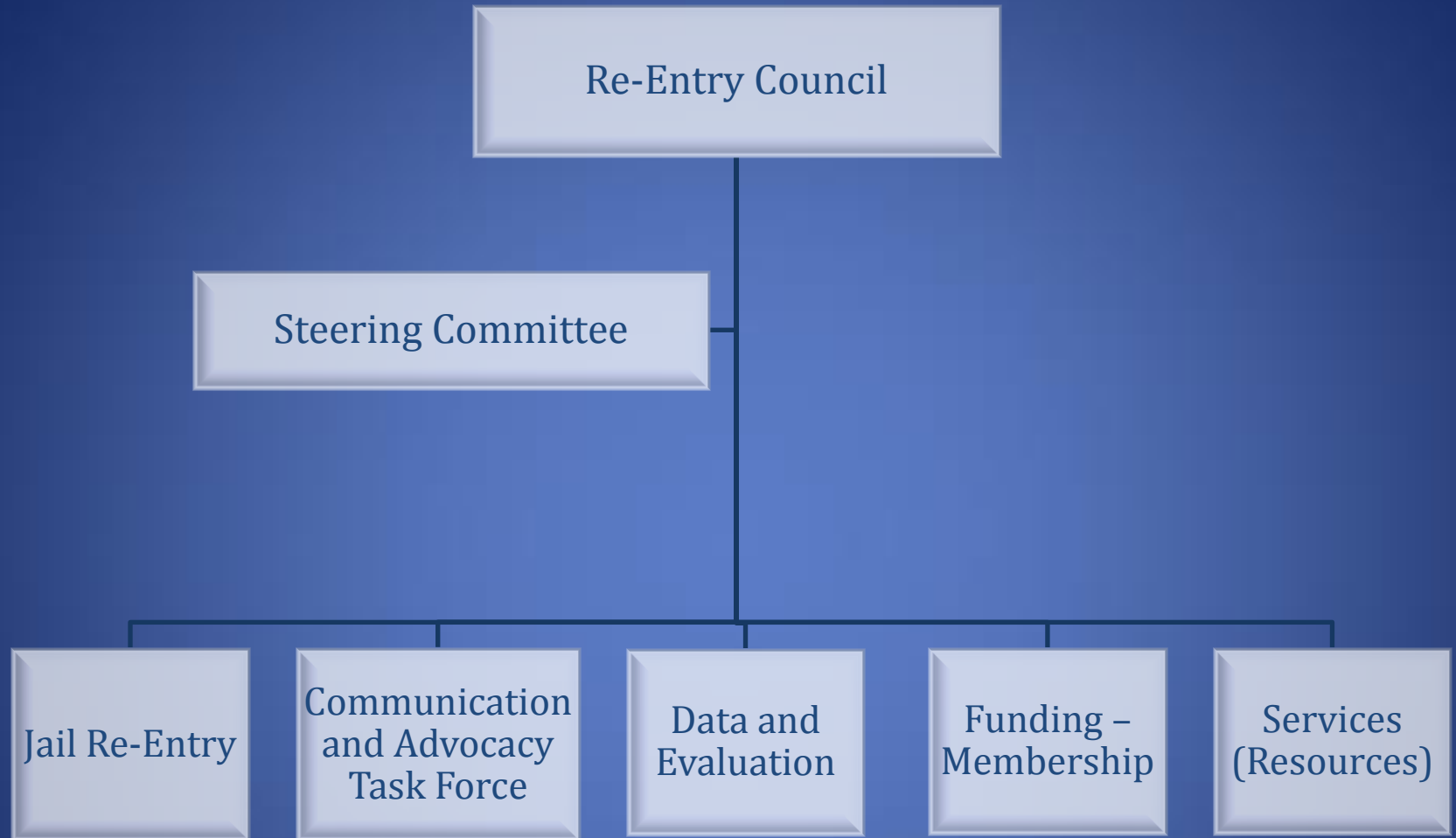
To reduce recidivism and improve the quality of life and safety in the Denver community.

Mission:

The jail to community collaborative connects participants transitioning from jail with supportive skills, resources, and relationships to promote positive community involvement and a safer Denver.

-Denver TJC initiative, Community Reentry Committee





**Community Collaboration Council
Statement of Partnership & Participation**

This is a statement of partnership and participation as a member of the local community collaboration council. I understand the purpose of the council is to strengthen our community and its families through collaboration and coordination of local resources and services.

Collaboration councils address issues such as reentry, housing, employment, behavioral health, substance abuse, family services, positive youth development, benefits and food assistance. Councils address reentry through implementation of the Virginia Community Reentry Approach. Localities implementing this approach identify community assets and service gaps and they focus on reentry by addressing reentry barriers and coordinating reentry related services and resources.

Councils are composed of community-based agencies, businesses, non-profits, civic groups and faith-based organizations. In addressing reentry councils coordinate with jails and correctional centers on pre-release services and collaborate on post-release service delivery. They also increase public awareness of reentry and reentry related issues, including the impact of crime on victims and helping link previously incarcerated individuals and their families with positive influences in the community through mentoring, coaching, peer support and other pro-social activities.

I understand that the Virginia Community Reentry Approach implemented by councils is not a program or an organization. Rather, it is a community-based approach to reentry that integrates public safety and human services. Each individual or agency council member provides their own services but they do so in a planned and coordinated way. The Community Reentry Approach goals are to:

Increase public safety and reduce recidivism through effective resource coordination and reentry service delivery

Maximize opportunities for people returning to the community after incarceration

Support family and community integration for people returning from incarceration

As an individual member or organizational designee of a local reentry & collaboration council I agree to:

Attend scheduled collaboration council meetings and/or events.

Voluntarily participate in work groups or subcommittees.

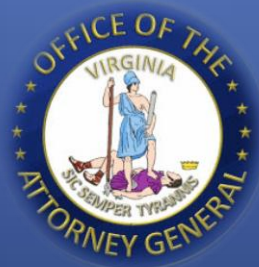
Provide information, services or resources to members of the community and/or previously incarcerated citizens returning to the community (if applicable).

Submit services provision data on a quarterly basis (if applicable).

Statement of Participation for: (Council Name)

Council Partner Type (check one): Individual Member _____ Agency/Organization Member _____

Name _____ Telephone _____ Email _____



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